

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS STATE 155165

FODAG

FOLLOWING REPEAT JAKARTA 08573 ACTION SECSTATE JUN 29.

QUOTE UNCLAS JAKARTA 8573

PASS TO SECRETARY BERGLAND AT AGRICULTURE

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: OCON, ID

SUBJ: NOMINATION FOR CHAIRMAN - FAO CONFERENCE - ROME, NOV 1977

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED FROM DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS NOTE
ADVISING THAT GOI INTENDS TO NOMINATE HE DR. TOYIB HADIWIJAYA
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AS A CANDIDATE FOR THE CHAIRMANSHIP
OF THE XIX SESSION OF THE FAO CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN ROME
IN NOVEMBER THIS YEAR.

NOTE CITES FOLLOWING REASONS FOR THIS DECISION:

(1) AGRICULTURE PLAYS A DOMINANT ROLE IN THE INDONESIAN
ECONOMY AND HAS BEEN GIVEN HIGH PRIORITY IN THE SECOND
FIVE YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN;

(2) WHILE CONTINUING TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF INCREASING
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ASSISTANCE FROM FAO TO ENHANCE ITS AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
INDONESIA WOULD LIKE TO SHARE ITS GREAT EXPERIENCE WITH
OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES IN THIS IMPORTANT SECTOR;

(3) SINCE IT HAS BEEN A MEMBER INDONESIA HAS NOT HAD THE
HONOR TO HOLD THE HIGHEST OFFICE AS CHAIRMAN OF ANY FAO
CONFERENCE.

2. THE NOTE STATES GOI WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF U.S. GOVERNMENT WOULD LEND ITS INVALUABLE SUPPORT TO CANDIDATURE OF MINISTER TOYIB HADIWIJAYA TO BE CHAIRMAN OF THE CONFERENCE.

3. DR. TOYIB HAS SERVED AS DEAN OF AGRICULTURE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BOGOR; AMBASSADOR TO BELGIUM; MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND SCIENCES; MINISTER OF PLANTATIONS; IN ADDITION TO BEING INDONESIAN MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE SINCE 1968. HE IS REGARDED AS FAVORABLY INCLINED TOWARDS THE UNITED STATES. WE BELIEVE DR. TOYIB WOULD BE A SATISFACTORY CHAIRMAN AND WOULD BE PERSONNALLY INCLINED TO MODERATE POSITIONS ON ISSUES RAISED AT CONFERENCE BY GROUP OF 77. WE SUGGEST CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO SUPPORTING HIS CANDIDACY.

4. SECRETARY BERGLAND IS ACQUAINTED WITH DR. TOYIB WHO WAS HOST DURING MOST OF SECRETARY'S RECENT VISIT.

5. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY ADVICE FOR AN APPROPRIATE RESPONSE TO THE FOREIGN OFFICE NOTE.
NEWSOM UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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